

Come to Understanding

They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding,
and they that murmured shall learn doctrine. — Isaiah 29:24

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The Abomination of Desolation: Part 3

The “abomination of desolation” spoken of by Daniel will be seen standing “where it ought not” (see Mark 13:14), which will be in “the holy place:”

15 When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand:)-Matthew 24

Daniel said the “sanctuary of strength” would be polluted, the “daily” (perpetual) *sacrifice* would be taken away, and the “abomination that makes desolate” would be placed:

31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*, and they shall place the abomination that makes desolate. -Daniel 11

At first glance, the place where the “abomination of desolation” will stand seems obvious. The “holy place” must be the temple! After all, the temple was the “holy place” that the Jews accused Paul of polluting by teaching the gospel and by allowing Greeks to enter therein:

28 Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teaches all *men* every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and has polluted this holy place.

29 (For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)

30 And all the city was moved, and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple: and immediately the doors were shut. -Acts 21

The temple which the Jews believed to be the “holy place,” was a replacement for the first temple, which David had in his heart to build for the name of Yahweh:

7 Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of Yahweh God of Israel. -2 Chronicles 6

Solomon, David’s son, built the first temple. Even so, he realized that Yahweh was far greater than could even be imagined. The house that Solomon had built for Him certainly could not contain Yahweh:

17 Now then, O Yahweh God of Israel, let your word

be verified, which you have spoken to your servant David.

18 But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain you; how much less this house which I have built! -2 Chronicles 6

Stephen testified, as he was being martyred, that God does not dwell in the temples made with hands:

47 But Solomon built him a house.

48 However the most High dwells not in temples made with hands; as said the prophet,

49 Heaven *is* my throne, and earth *is* my footstool: what house will you build me? says the Lord *Yahweh*: or what *is* the place of my rest?

50 Has not my hand made all these things? -Acts 7

The physical temple was a mere building made with human hands. It was not the true “holy place,” which is the presence of God. Instead, the physical temple was only a “figure,” which was patterned after the true “holy place:”

11 But the Messiah coming as a high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

24 For the Messiah has not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: -Hebrews 9

Yahshua (Jesus), full of the Spirit of God, told the Jews who presided over the polluted physical temple that His body was the temple. Even though it would be destroyed, He said that He would raise it up in three days:

19 Yahshua answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and will you raise it up in three days?

21 But he spoke of the temple of his body.

22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this to them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Yahshua had said. -John 2

The temple of God is where His Spirit dwells. Those who have received His Holy Spirit are His temple:

16 Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense,
and caused them to understand the reading. — Nehemiah 8:8

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17 If any man defiles the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are. -1 Corinthians 3

We are, therefore, a spiritual temple, of which Yahshua the Messiah (Jesus Christ) is the chief corner stone. This spiritual temple is comprised of those in which the Spirit of God lives and is built upon the foundation laid by the Word of God through His prophets and apostles:

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Yahshua the Messiah himself being the chief corner *stone*;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together grows to a holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom you also are built together for a habitation of God through the Spirit. -Ephesians 2

Yahshua the Messiah is the chief corner stone upon which God builds His spiritual house and His people, which are a holy priesthood of true believers, are the living stones, of which this spiritual temple is built:

4 To whom coming, *as to a living stone*, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,

5 You also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Yahshua the Messiah.

6 Therefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believes on him shall not be confounded. -1 Peter 2

God dwells in His people, which are those who confess that Yahshua the Messiah (Jesus Christ) is the Son of God. Those who know God know that God is love. Therefore, they dwell in love as God dwells in them:

15 Whoever shall confess that Yahshua is the Son of God, God dwells in him, and he in God.

16 And we have known and believed the love that God has to us. God is love; and he that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him. -1 John 4

The Spirit of God, also called the Comforter and the Holy Ghost, is sent in the name of Yahshua (Yah the Savior):

26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you. -John 14

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Those who receive the Spirit of God through the name of Yahshua the Messiah have the Spirit of the Messiah. God dwells in them:

9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of the Messiah, he is none of his. -Romans 8

There is only one name whereby we may become a holy habitation for God. It is the name upon which the spiritual temple of God is built. It is the only name given among men whereby we must be saved. It is the name of the head corner stone of the true temple of God. It is the name of Yahshua the Messiah, who came in the name of Yahweh:

11 This is the stone which was set at nothing by you builders, which has become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. -Acts 4

Paul cautioned that *before* the true Messiah returns, there will be a “falling away,” which means a forsaking of the truth. Many will thereby be deceived into accepting the false Messiah, who will actually be the “man of sin,” the son of perdition (destruction). He will sit in the “temple of God,” the “holy place,” pretending to be God:

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, unless there comes a falling away first, and that man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition;

4 Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. -2 Thessalonians 2

The “man of sin,” the “son of perdition,” is known by many titles, including “the beast.” In his honor, a “living” and “speaking” image will be made, which will be worshipped throughout the world. Those who refuse will be threatened with death:

15 And he had power to give life to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. -Revelation 13

“The beast” will gain control over the global financial system and will offer economic prosperity to those who accept his name. Many, perhaps even including those who claim to be the God’s holy people, will be deceived into accepting his name as that of their savior:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. -Revelation 13

Accepting the “name of the beast” and worshipping the “image of the beast,” however, is an abomination that will surely lead to desolation (see Revelation 14:9-11).

Nevertheless, the true people of God, even though they will be tempted by the “man of sin” and his gospel of prosperity, will continue to walk in the name of Yahweh forever:

5 For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of Yahweh our God forever and ever. -Micah 4